



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# Tennessee Farm Facts

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

October Crop Production   Milk Production   Cotton Ginnings   Layers & Eggs

Livestock Slaughter   TDA News Release

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## Updates Made To Tennessee Crop Production Forecasts

September weather was very similar to the hot, dry conditions of August. As a result, row crop yield forecasts declined overall. Cotton was the lone exception, however, as the crop has fared well despite this year's growing conditions. Results of a survey of farmers conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service showed the state's cotton and hay yields increased from earlier projections, while corn and soybeans decreased. The October forecast, which is based on farmers' projections of final yields as of the first of the month, showed the following results: **Corn**, 117 bushels per acre, down 31 bushels from 2009; **Cotton**, 905 pounds per acre, up 62 pounds from a year earlier; **Soybeans**, 33 bushels per acre, down 12 bushels from the previous year; **Burley Tobacco**, 1,750 pounds per acre, down 170 pounds from last year; and **Other Hay**, except alfalfa, 2.3 tons per acre, up 0.1 tons from 2009.

### Cotton Production Surges

Tennessee's cotton production is forecast at 730,000 bales, up 48 percent from last year's production of 492,000 bales. Cotton yields are expected to average 905 pounds per acre, up 62 pounds from the previous year. Producers expect to harvest 387,000 acres, an increase of 107,000 acres from 2009. In many areas, bolls are small and knotty, but quite numerous, leading to the prospects of an excellent crop. Overall yields are aided by the increase in acreage under irrigation and ample heat units. Defoliation and harvest progress around October 1 was a full two weeks ahead of average. As of October 1, 172,050 bales of cotton had been ginned, and 95 percent of the crop had been defoliated compared to an average of 64 percent.

### Soybean Production Down Nearly A Third

Soybean production is forecast at 46.5 million bushels, down 22.3 million from last year's near record output and, if realized, will be slightly above average. Soybean yields are forecast at 33 bushels per acre, 12 bushels below 2009. The State's planted acreage is estimated at 1.45 million acres, down 8 percent from a year earlier. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 1.41 million, down 120,000 acres from a year ago. Continued dry weather during the month of September caused rapid development in the soybean crop. As of October 3, 46 percent of the crop had been harvested and 91 percent dropping leaves, a week ahead of the five-year average.

### Corn Production Slides From 2009

Tennessee's corn production is forecast at 73.7 million bushels, down 16 percent from a year ago. Yields are expected to average 117 bushels per acre, 31 bushels below 2009 and 5 bushels below the September 1 forecast. The State's planted acreage was updated from June and is now estimated at 710,000 acres, up 40,000 from last year. Farmers expect to harvest 630,000 acres for grain, also 40,000 more than last year. Favorable harvest weather allowed virtually uninterrupted progress during September. Silage harvest was completed by month's end. As of the week ending October 3, over 96 percent of the corn crop for grain had been harvested. Grain harvest is running a full three weeks ahead of schedule and is the third highest harvest percentage on record for this time of year.

## Burley Production Down Slightly

As of October 1, burley production is forecast at 26.3 million pounds, 2 percent below a year ago. The state average yield is forecast at 1,750 pounds per acre, down 170 pounds from 2009. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 15,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from 2009. Harvest, with the exception of dark fire-cured, was about wrapped-up at month's end. The completion of dark fire-cured harvest has been delayed as growers counting on double-barring await a slow curing crop. Curing conditions were generally poor in Middle Tennessee and manageable elsewhere. Yields are highly variable depending on when the crop was set and moisture availability. Some of the earliest set tobacco died in the intense heat and dry weather, while the bulk of later set tobacco received some showers. Tennessee's dark-fired tobacco yields are forecast at 2,900 pounds per acre, while dark air-cured is forecast to yield 2,600 pounds per acre, down 200 and 100 pounds per acre, respectively.

## Hay Production To Increase

Hay production, excluding alfalfa, is forecast at 4.37 million tons, 5 percent above last year's crop. Yields are expected to average 2.3 tons per acre, up 0.1 ton from last year. Acreage is estimated at 1.90 million acres, unchanged from a year earlier. Autumn in Tennessee has seen a continuation of summer's above average temperatures and sparse precipitation. As of the week ending October 3, 24 percent of pastures were rated in very poor condition, 25 percent in poor condition, 33 percent in fair condition, and 18 percent in good condition. Many cattle producers have been feeding hay for several weeks now.

### Crop Forecasts: Tennessee and United States, October 1, 2010, with Comparisons

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Crop	Units	Harvested Acres		Yield Per Acre		Production	
		2009	Indicated 2010	2009	Indicated 2010	2009	Indicated 2010
		Thousands		Number of Units		Thousands	
<b>Tennessee</b>							
Apples	lb.	---	---	8,890	10,000	8,000	9,000
Corn for grain	bu.	590	630	148	117	87,320	73,710
Cotton <sup>1</sup>	lb.	280	387	843	905	492	730
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	1,900	1,900	2.20	2.30	4,180	4,370
Soybeans	bu.	1,530	1,410	45	33	68,850	46,530
Tobacco, All	lb.	21.6	22.3	2,313	2,112	49,960	47,090
Dark fire-cured	lb.	6.4	6.2	3,100	2,900	19,840	17,980
Burley	lb.	14.0	15.0	1,920	1,750	26,880	26,250
Dark air-cured	lb.	1.2	1.1	2,700	2,600	3,240	2,860
Winter Wheat	bu.	340	190	51.0	53.0	17,340	9,540
<b>United States</b>							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	9,914,900	9,413,500
Corn for grain	bu.	79,590	81,263	164.7	155.8	13,110,062	12,663,949
Cotton <sup>1</sup>	lb.	7,529	10,773	777	841	12,188	18,873
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	38,528	38,924	1.98	2.08	76,412	80,952
Soybeans	bu.	76,372	76,823	44.0	44.4	3,359,011	3,408,211
Tobacco, All	lb.	354.2	338.0	2,322	2,110	822,567	713,033
Dark fire-cured	lb.	16.2	15.6	3,281	3,080	52,990	48,055
Burley	lb.	101.9	97.9	2,109	1,897	214,896	185,695
Dark air-cured	lb.	5.8	5.6	2,938	2,761	17,040	15,460
Winter Wheat	bu.	34,510	31,749	44.2	46.8	1,524,608	1,485,236

<sup>1</sup> Production in 480-lb. net weight bales. U.S. production includes American-Pima cotton.

**Tennessee:** July-September 2010 quarterly production of milk was 193 million pounds, down 8 percent from the July-September period in 2009. The average number of milk cows was 52,000 head, 3,000 head less than the same period a year earlier. April-June 2010 quarterly production of milk, at 232 million pounds, was down 6 percent from the April-June period in 2009. The average number of milk cows for the April-June quarter was 53,000 head, 3,000 less than a year earlier.

### Milk Cows and Production: Tennessee and U.S. Preliminary, July-September, 2009-2010

	July-September Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		July-September Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		Change from 2009
	2009	2010	2009	2010	
	1,000 Head		Million Pounds		Percent
<b>Tennessee</b>	55	52	210	193	-8.1
<b>United States</b>	9,155	9,123	46,793	48,071	2.7

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. <sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**Cotton Ginnings: Running Bales Ginned ( Excluding Linters)  
As of October 1, 2010 by Crop, State, and United States**

Crop and State	Running Bales Ginned			
	2007	2008	2009	2010
Upland				
AL	31,550	10,450	<sup>1</sup>	78,550
AZ	30,300	13,850	18,000	16,050
AR	297,650	37,550	-	348,050
FL	<sup>1</sup>	1,050	-	<sup>1</sup>
GA	14,750	37,900	<sup>1</sup>	151,100
LA	49,100	71,050	18,250	205,350
MS	162,750	17,600	<sup>1</sup>	321,900
MO	234,100	12,400	-	145,650
NC	28,300	1,700	1,600	92,800
OK	1,200	-	-	1,500
SC	8,550	1,950	3,550	16,900
<b>TN</b>	142,350	18,350	-	172,050
TX	559,750	573,550	191,000	730,550
VA	1,750	-	-	2,050
US	1,566,300	797,400	233,900	2,288,500

<sup>1</sup> Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Selected States  
and United States, During September 2009-2010**

Selected States	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 or more		All Layers <sup>1</sup>		Eggs per 100 for All Layers	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	Number	Number
Alabama	1,261	1,406	9,244	9,605	1,882	1,895
Arkansas	3,440	3,213	11,818	11,899	2,014	1,983
Georgia	8,535	8,153	17,105	16,761	2,116	2,118
North Carolina	5,587	5,840	12,617	12,935	1,997	2,002
All Other States <sup>2</sup>	255,181	257,741	283,101	286,209	2,243	2,254
United States	274,004	276,353	333,885	337,409	2,209	2,218

<sup>1</sup> Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. <sup>2</sup> Tennessee included in All Other States.

**Livestock Slaughter<sup>1</sup>: Tennessee & United States, September 2009-2010**

Species	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
<b>Tennessee</b>						
Cattle	3.0	4.0	2,563	3,409	879	874
Calves	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>
Hogs	66.1	68.4	30,399	31,023	461	454
Sheep & Lambs	1.5	1.3	106	105	73	78
<b>United States</b>						
Cattle	2,814.7	2,898.2	3,676,850	3,723,564	1,310	1,289
Calves	81.3	71.2	19,678	19,199	245	273
Hogs	9,939.8	9,344.9	2,679,933	2,524,527	270	270
Sheep & Lambs	225.2	204.0	29,341	26,200	130	129

<sup>1</sup> Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter (excludes farm slaughter). <sup>2</sup> Represents Zero.

## **Tennessee Invests in Farm Innovation, Diversification Projects**

Governor Phil Bredesen and Agriculture Commissioner Terry J. Oliver today announced Producer Diversification cost share awards totaling more than \$930,000. The funds will help 162 Tennessee farmers invest in new or expanding areas of agriculture. The Producer Diversification cost share opportunity is part of the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program established in 2005 by Governor Bredesen and funded by the Tennessee General Assembly to spur farm investment in Tennessee.

“More than ever, it is important for farmers to look at ways to diversify their operations,” said Governor Bredesen. “These business investments and opportunities will not only help farmers keep their operations profitable but they will help strengthen our rural economy in communities across the state.” In its sixth year, the Producer Diversification cost share opportunity is helping farmers expand or improve their operations through production of varied agricultural products. Diversified agricultural products include agritourism, aquaculture, honey bees, fruits and vegetables, horticulture, organics, value-added products, viticulture and others as approved by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture.

“This program is making a real difference for producers,” said Oliver. “More and more farmers are seeing the benefit to diversifying their operations and are achieving continued success.” Through the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program, which provides a variety of cost share opportunities for farmers and also includes programs aimed at cattle improvement, hay and feed storage and animal health improvement, producers can make their operations more profitable. Through the Producer Diversification cost share opportunity, Tennessee farmers can apply for reimbursement of 35-50 percent, up to \$15,000 in some instances, for eligible cost share activities. The dollars are meant to help farmers who want to install farm infrastructure, purchase specialty equipment and market their diversified farm products. Applications are then reviewed for eligibility, ranked and approved on a competitive basis, based on project plans and the potential to increase farm income. The 162 projects funded this year represent a wide range of new and emerging agricultural investments.